

Solo Leveling

Art · DUBU (REDICE STUDIO)
Original Novel · Chugong
Story · h-goon

34

WHOEVER FIGHTS MONSTERS...

...SHOULD SEE TO IT THAT IN
THE PROCESS HE DOES NOT
BECOME A MONSTER.

IF YOU GAZE LONG ENOUGH
INTO AN ABYSS,

THE ABYSS...



...WILL GAZE BACK INTO YOU.

-FRIEDRICH
NIETZSCHE

HUNTERS
HAVE WITNESSED
COUNTLESS DEATHS,
AND HAVE TAKEN
MANY LIVES.

BECAUSE
WE STRADDLE THE
LINE BETWEEN LIFE AND
DEATH, WE NOT ONLY FIGHT
AGAINST MAGIC BEASTS,
BUT OTHER HUMANS
AS WELL.

WE HAVE
BECOME EXTRAORDINARY
"KILLING MACHINES."

YOU'RE NO
DIFFERENT.

WE FACE
DEATH ON THE
DAILY, SO DON'T TELL
ME YOU'RE LUMPING US
HUNTERS TOGETHER
WITH ORDINARY
HUMANS.



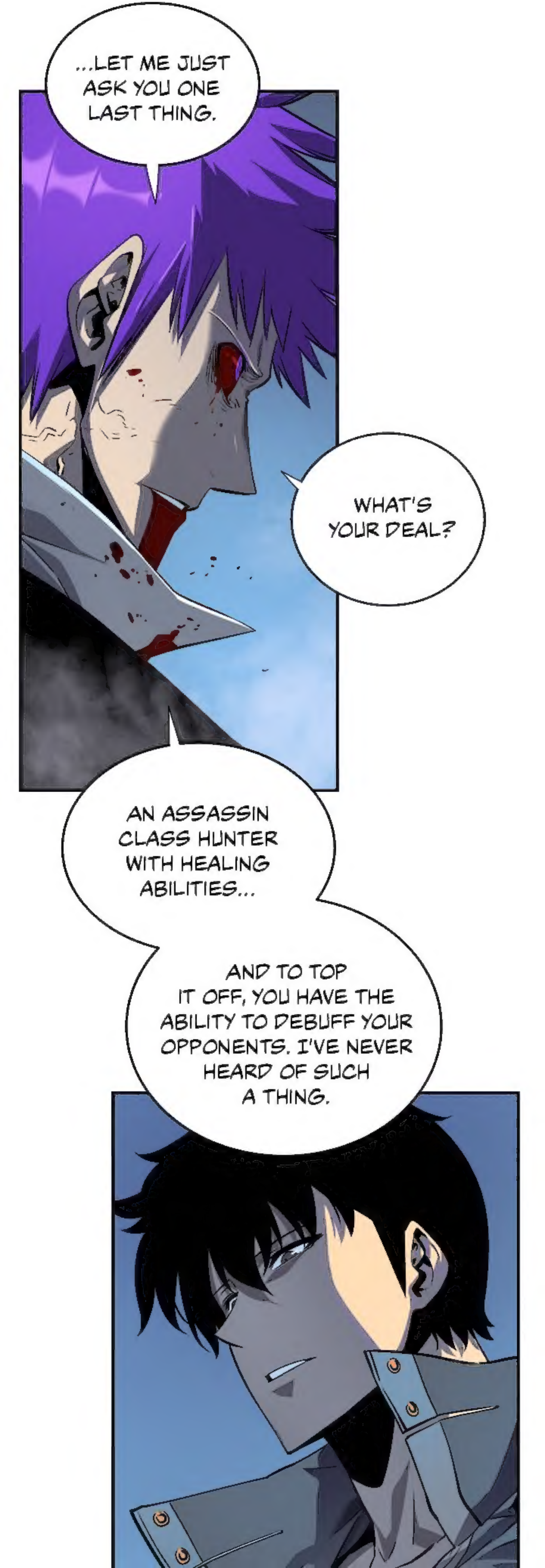
ANYWAY...





...I'VE LOST,
SO I'LL DIE.

IT'S THE
NATURAL ORDER
OF THINGS.



...LET ME JUST
ASK YOU ONE
LAST THING.

WHAT'S
YOUR DEAL?

AN ASSASSIN
CLASS HUNTER
WITH HEALING
ABILITIES...

AND TO TOP
IT OFF, YOU HAVE THE
ABILITY TO DEBUFF YOUR
OPPONENTS. I'VE NEVER
HEARD OF SUCH
A THING.





WELL, I'D
LIKE TO KNOW THE
ANSWER TO THAT,
TOO.

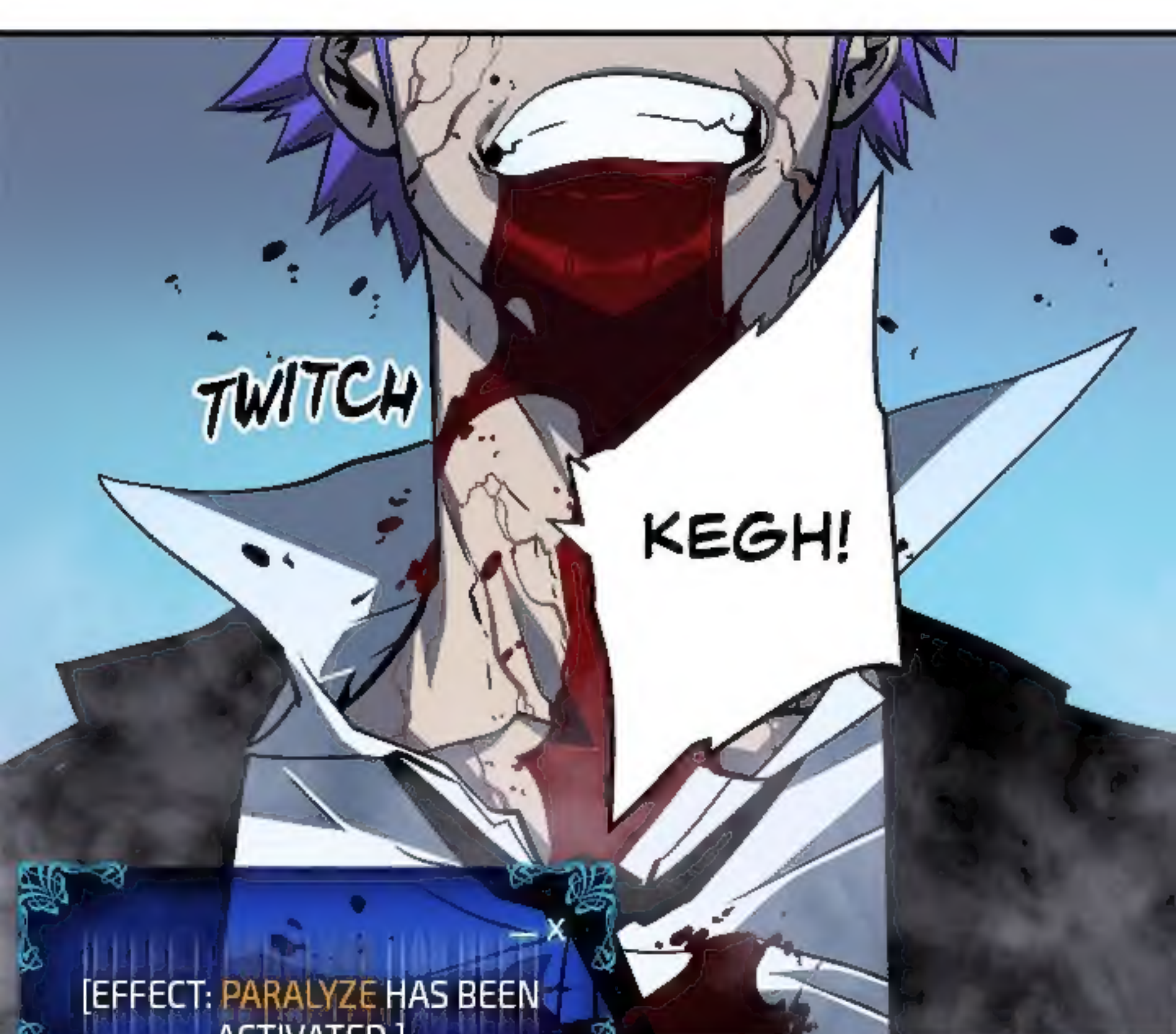


HAA

HAA

A GUY LIKE
ME WHO TALKS
TOO MUCH MAY SEEM
PATHETIC TO YOU,
BUT...

SOMEONE WITH TOO
MANY SECRETS ISN'T
ALL THAT GREAT
EITHER.



TWITCH

KEGH!

[EFFECT: **PARALYZE** HAS BEEN
ACTIVATED.]

[EFFECT: **BLEED** HAS BEEN
ACTIVATED.]



NOW THAT YOU'VE
KILLED ME, YOU
WON'T BE ABLE TO
HIDE YOUR TRUE
RANK.

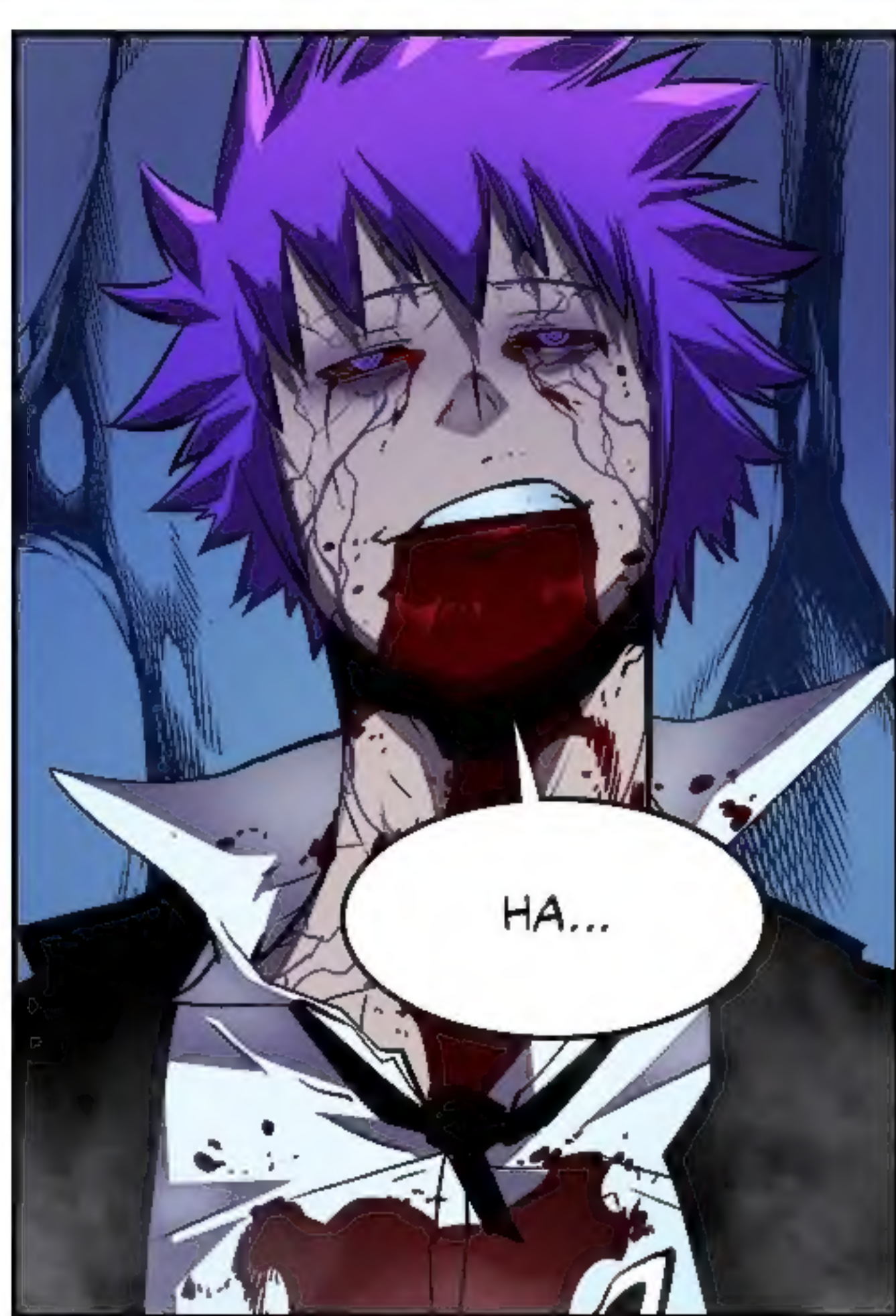


...



LET'S SAY I'M
A HUNTER THAT
IMPROVES WITH
EVERY BATTLE.

HOW MUCH
STRONGER DO YOU
THINK I'LL GET?

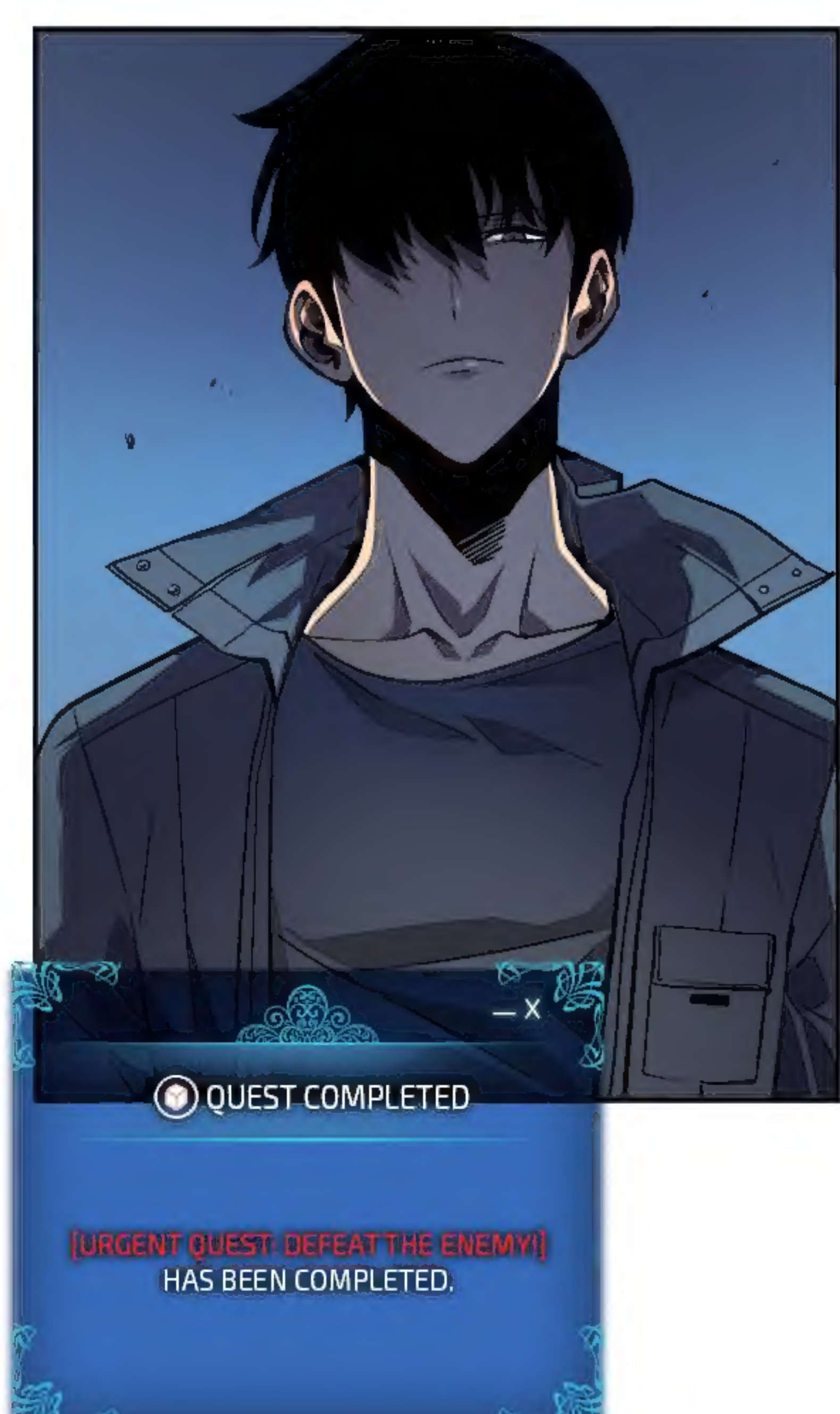


HA...



YOUR
SHADOW...

...HAS
BECOME ONE WITH
DARKNESS.



BUT FOR SOME REASON...



...I FEEL LIKE SOMETHING
IS DESTROYED INSIDE OF
ME EVERYTIME I GET
STRONGER.



JINWOO...

THANK YOU.

THANKS,
SLUNG.

IF IT WEREN'T
FOR YOU, WE'D
BOTH BE DEAD
BY NOW.

NOW,
WHAT SHOULD WE
DO ABOUT THIS
MESS...

WOULDN'T IT BE
BEST TO LEAVE THIS
DUNGEON AND REPORT
EVERYTHING TO THE
ASSOCIATION?

WE
NEED TO CLOSE
THE DUNGEON
FIRST.

SLUNG, ARE
YOU PLANNING ON
FIGHTING THE BOSS
ON YOUR OWN...?!

...WELL, NOW THAT
I'VE SEEN YOUR
SKILLS, I WON'T
STOP YOU.





[RUNE STONE: CAMOUFLAGE]

TYPE: RUNE STONE

BREAKING THIS RUNE STONE WILL GRANT YOU A SKILL.

I CAN OBTAIN
THE SKILL THAT GUY
WAS USING?

SUNG, JOOHEE
AND I WILL HEAD
OUT FIRST AND
CONTACT THE
ASSOCIATION.

WE'LL BE WAITING
FOR YOU OUTSIDE.
PLEASE BE
QUICK.

I WON'T
TAKE LONG.



ARE YOU
NOT ABLE TO
TALK?

MAN, THAT WAS
BRUTAL OF KANG
TAESHIK.

HE WAS
SHREWD ENOUGH TO
CUT YOUR VOCAL
CHORDS.

AFTER MAKING YOU
UNABLE TO SCREAM,
HE PROBABLY WANTED
TO KILL YOU IN THE
MOST PAINFUL WAY
POSSIBLE.

AT THIS RATE,
YOU'LL DIE OF
BLOOD LOSS.

YOU COULD
SURVIVE IF I GET
JOOHEE TO HEAL
YOU.

I'M... BEING
SPARED.

WAIT, THIS
WAY IS...

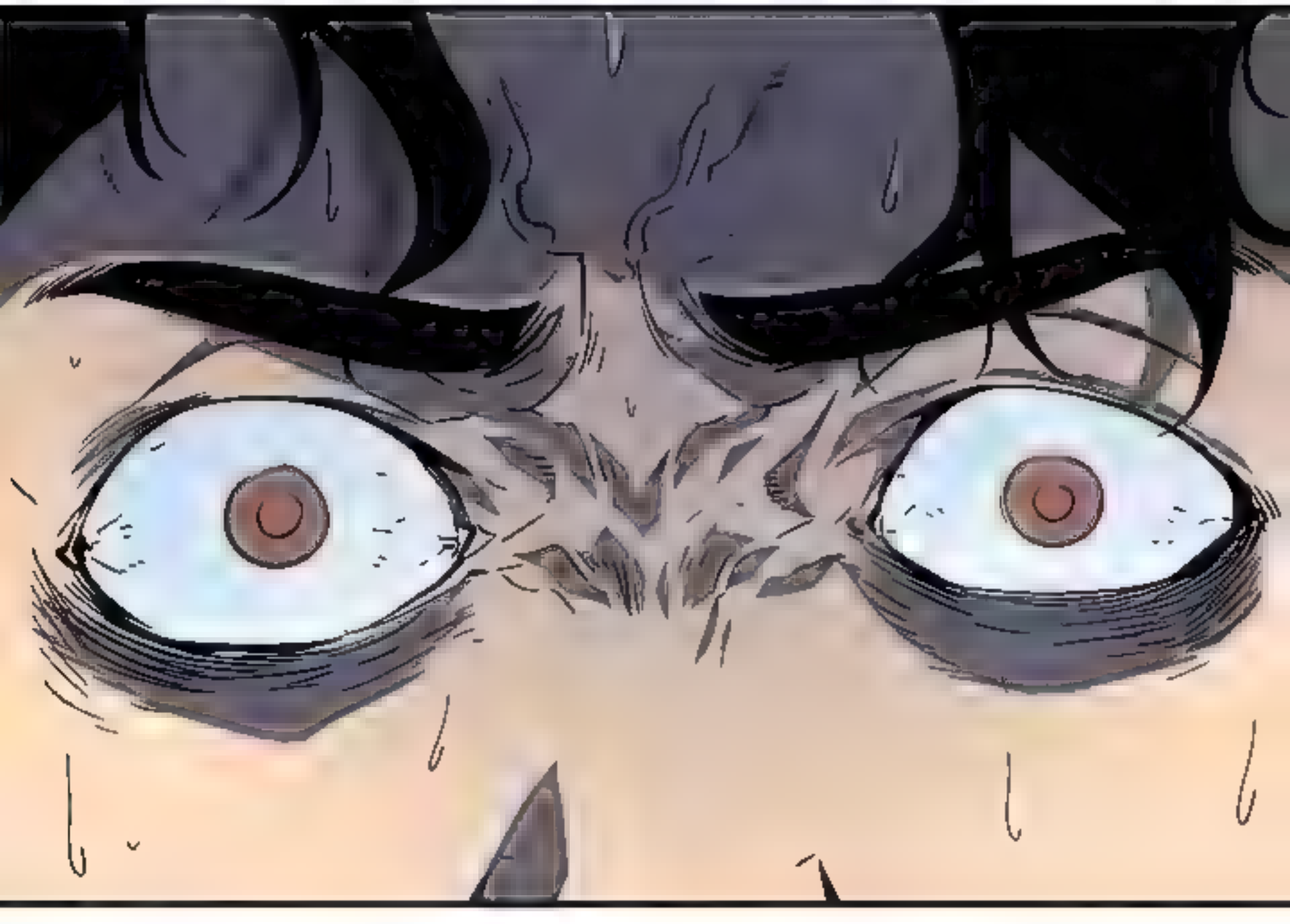
STAY
STILL.

DRAG

DRAG

THIS
ISN'T THE WAY

OUT!



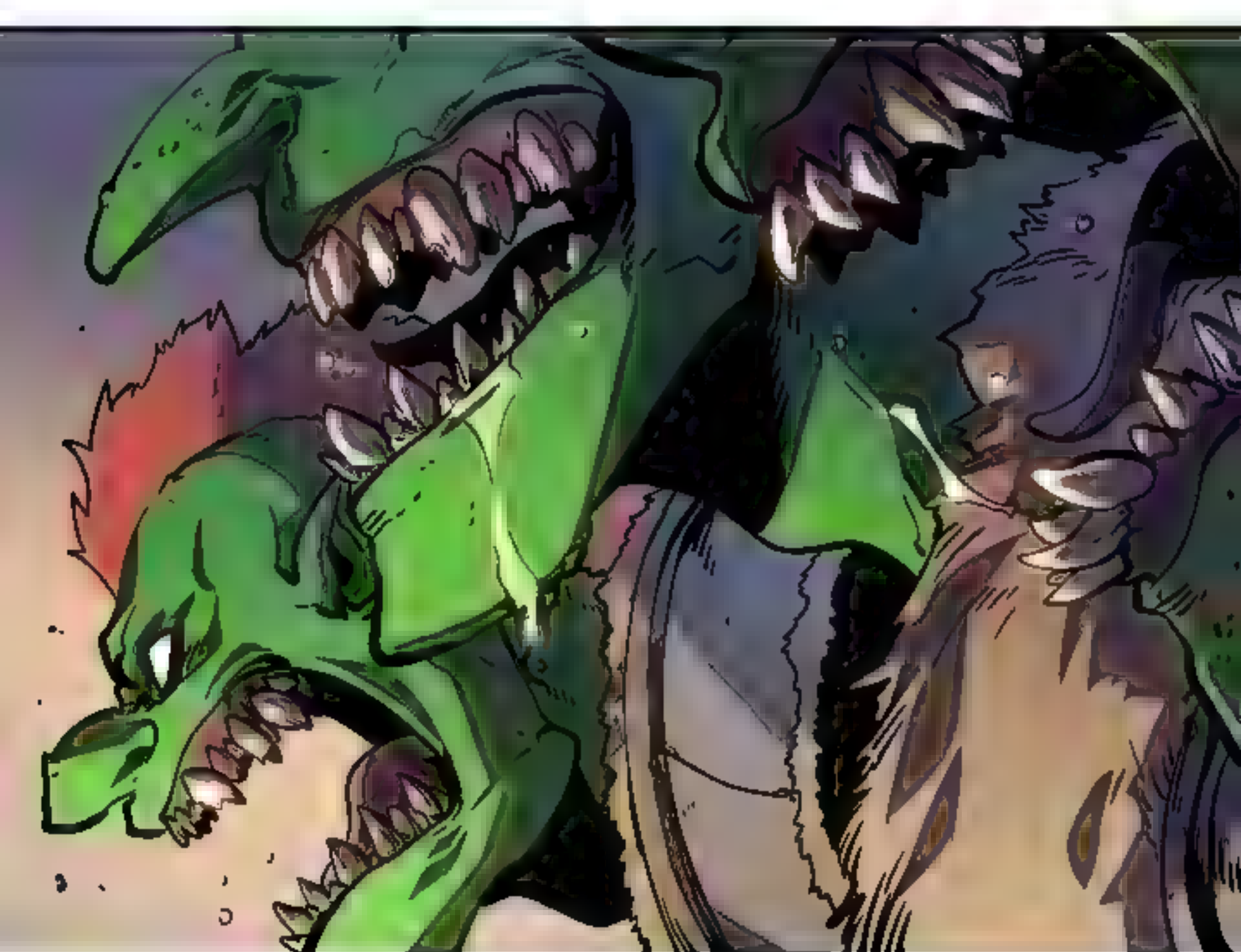


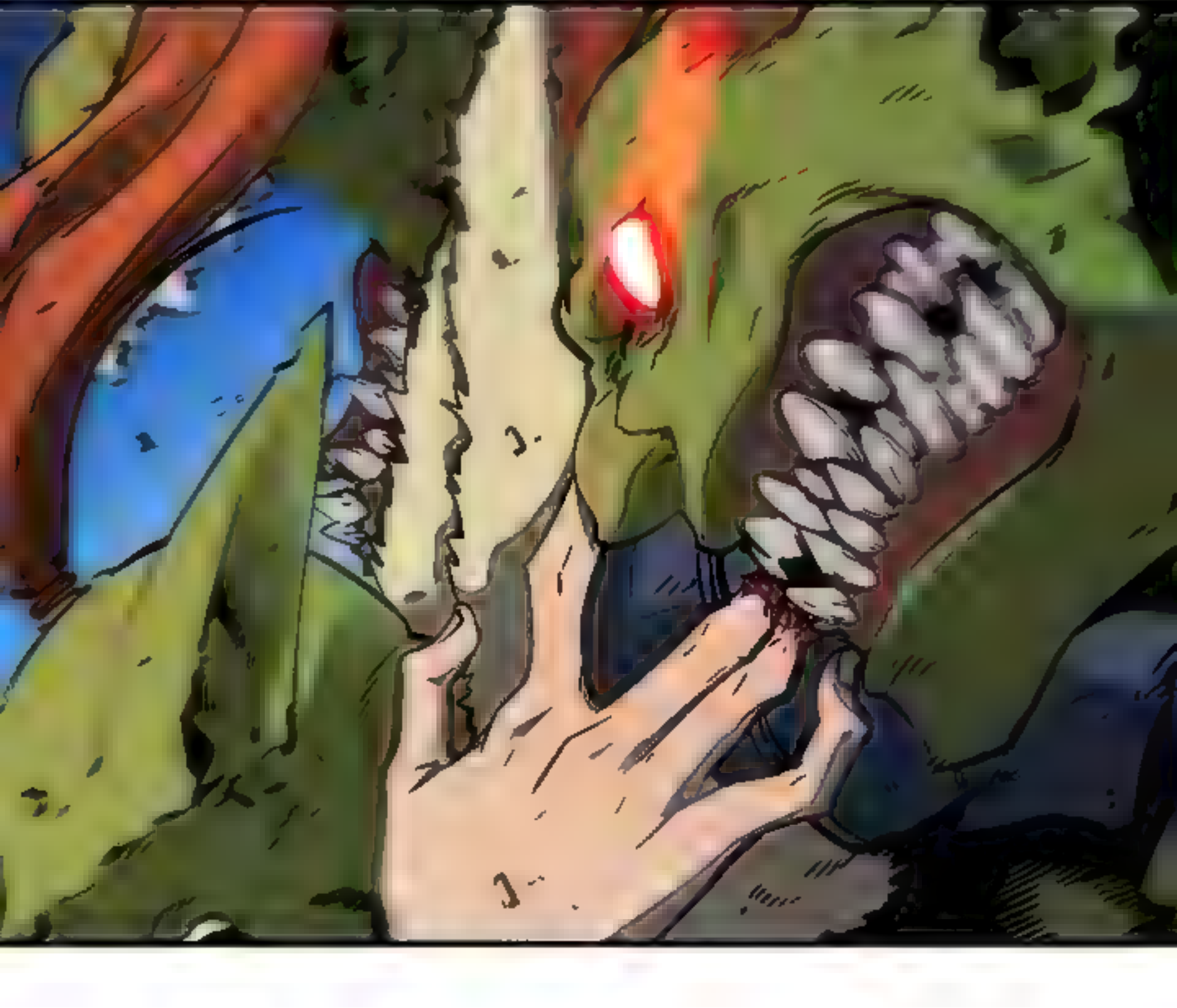
**YOU'RE
EVEN MORE OF
A SCUMBAG
THAN KANG
TAESHIK.**

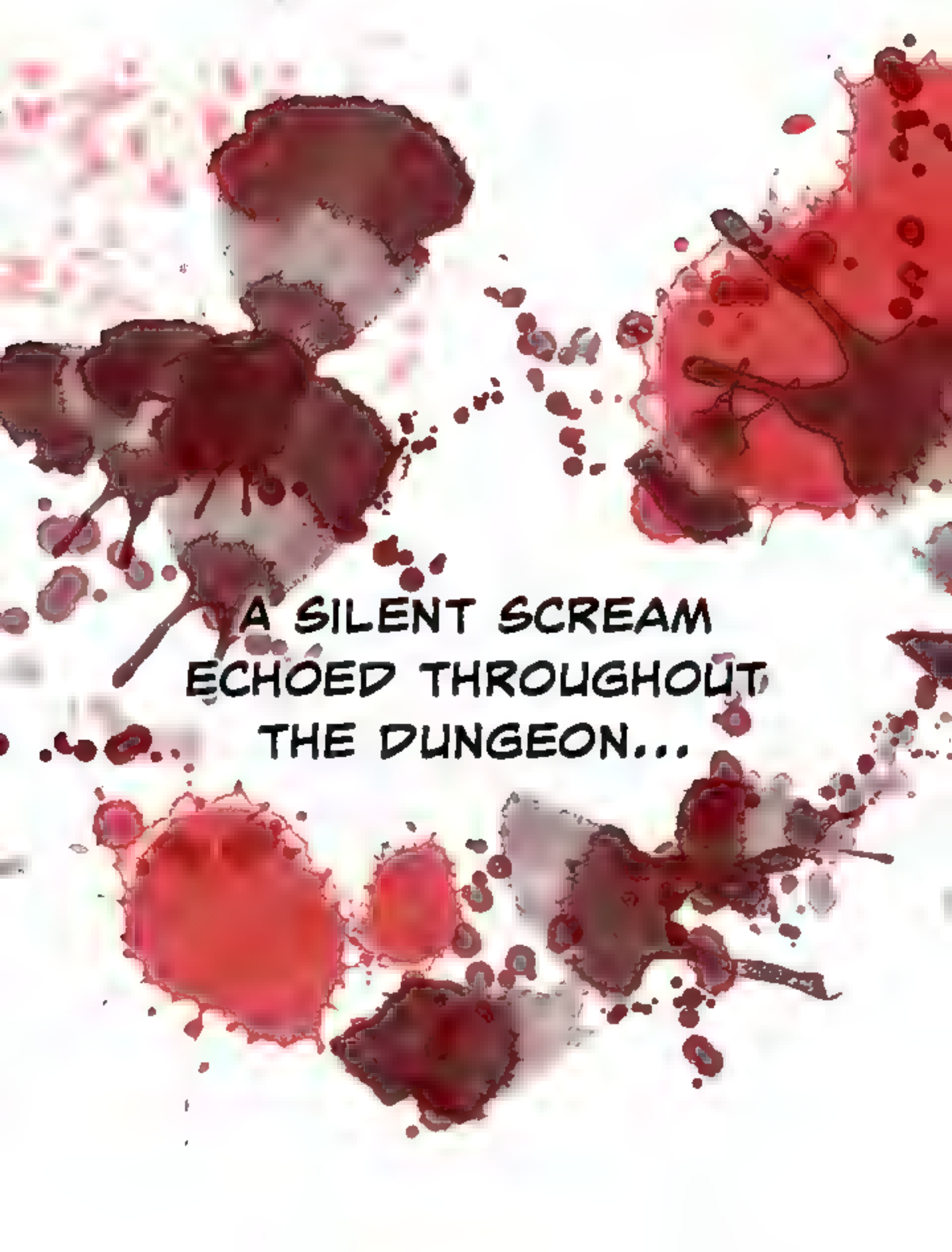
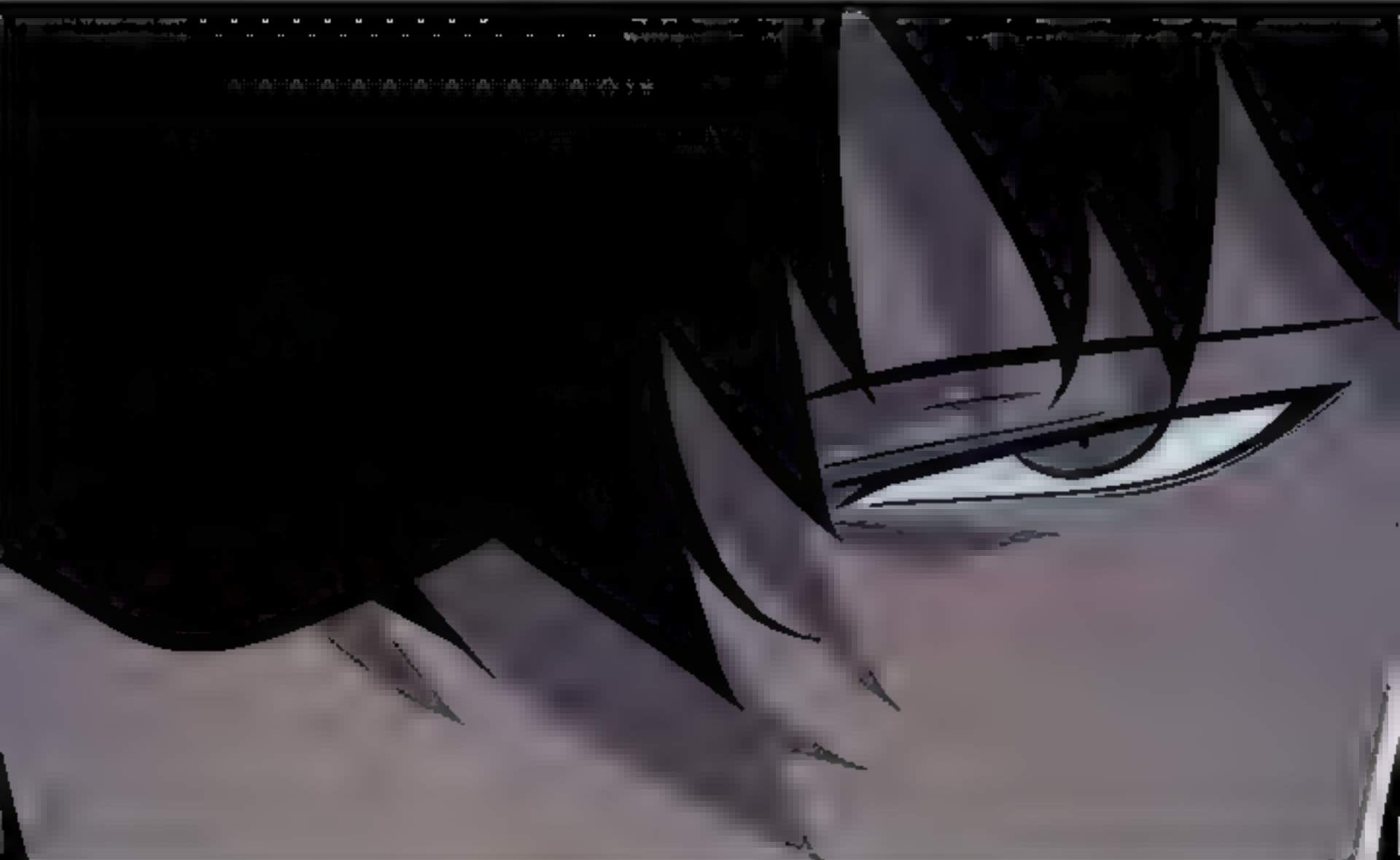
**THERE'S NO
WAY I WOULD LET
YOU LEAVE THIS
DUNGEON.**

TREMBLE

TREMBLE









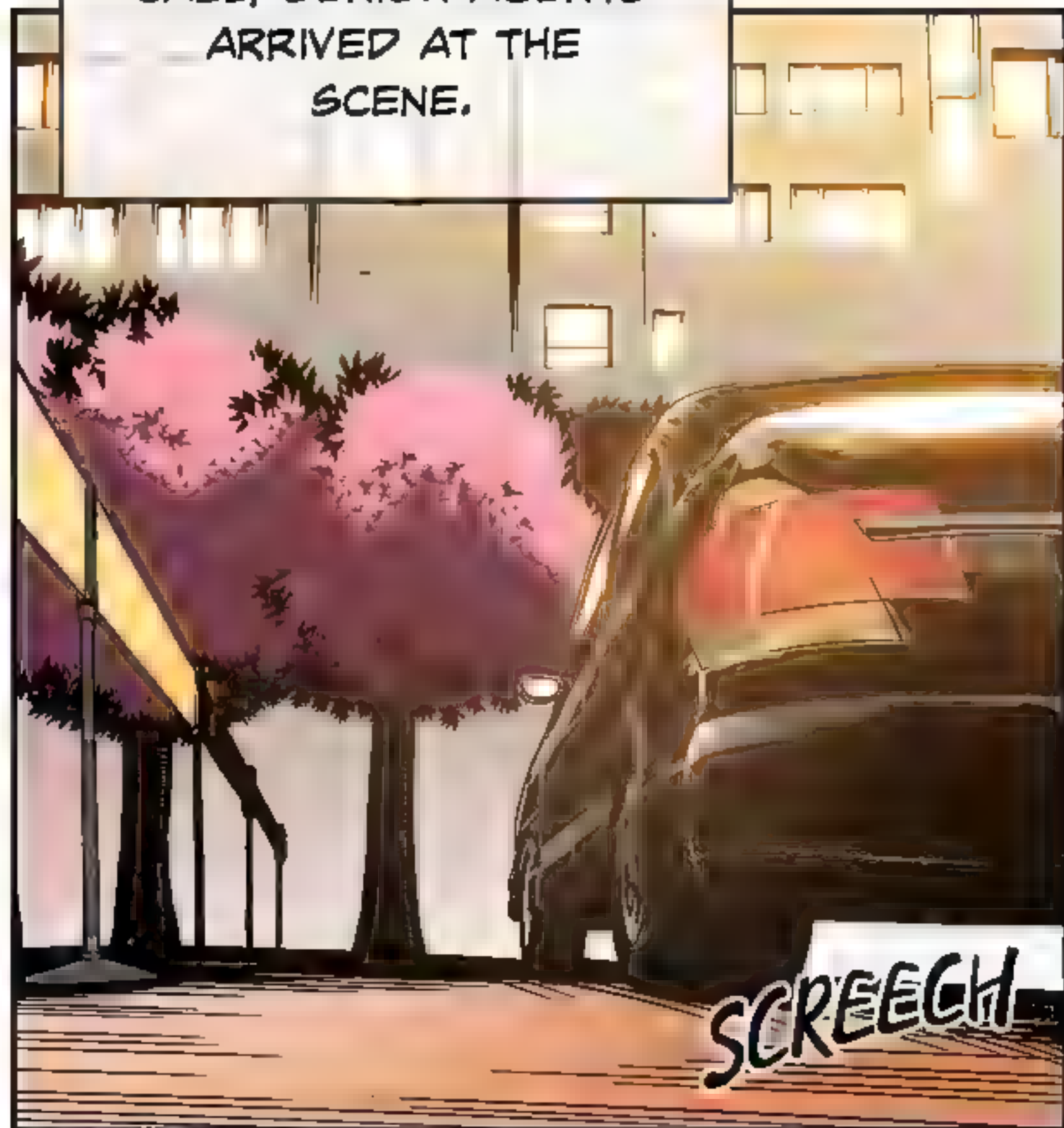
AFTER THAT, DEFEATING
THE HOBGOBLIN BOSS
WASN'T MUCH OF A
CHALLENGE.

MR. SONG AND JOOHEE
LEFT THE DUNGEON FIRST
TO TELL THE SURVEILLANCE
AGENT ABOUT WHAT
HAD HAPPENED.



WHEN SHE REALIZED
THAT THERE HAD BEEN
A MAJOR ACCIDENT, SHE
IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED
THE HIGHER-UPS.

SOON
AFTER RECEIVING HER
CALL, SENIOR AGENTS
ARRIVED AT THE
SCENE.

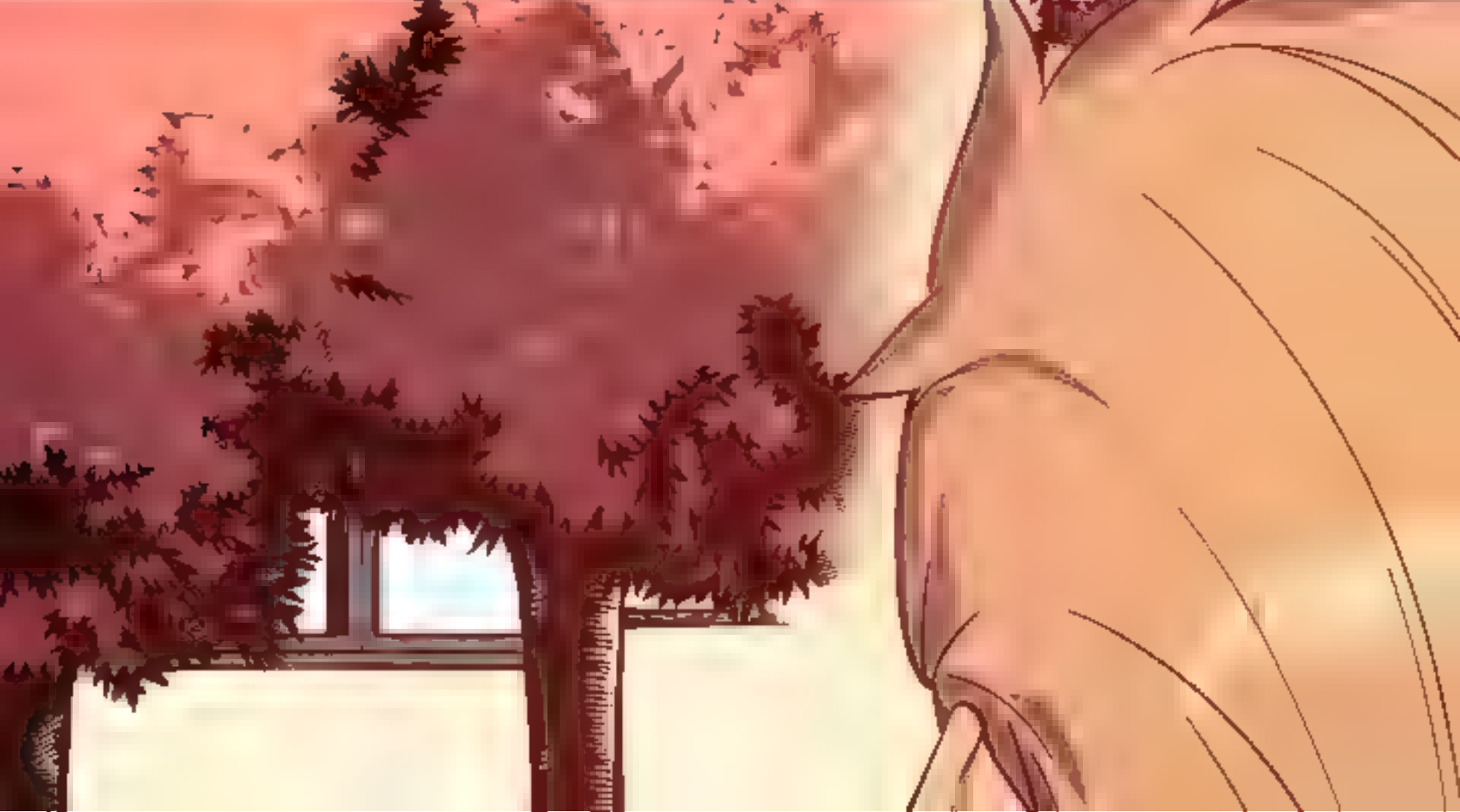
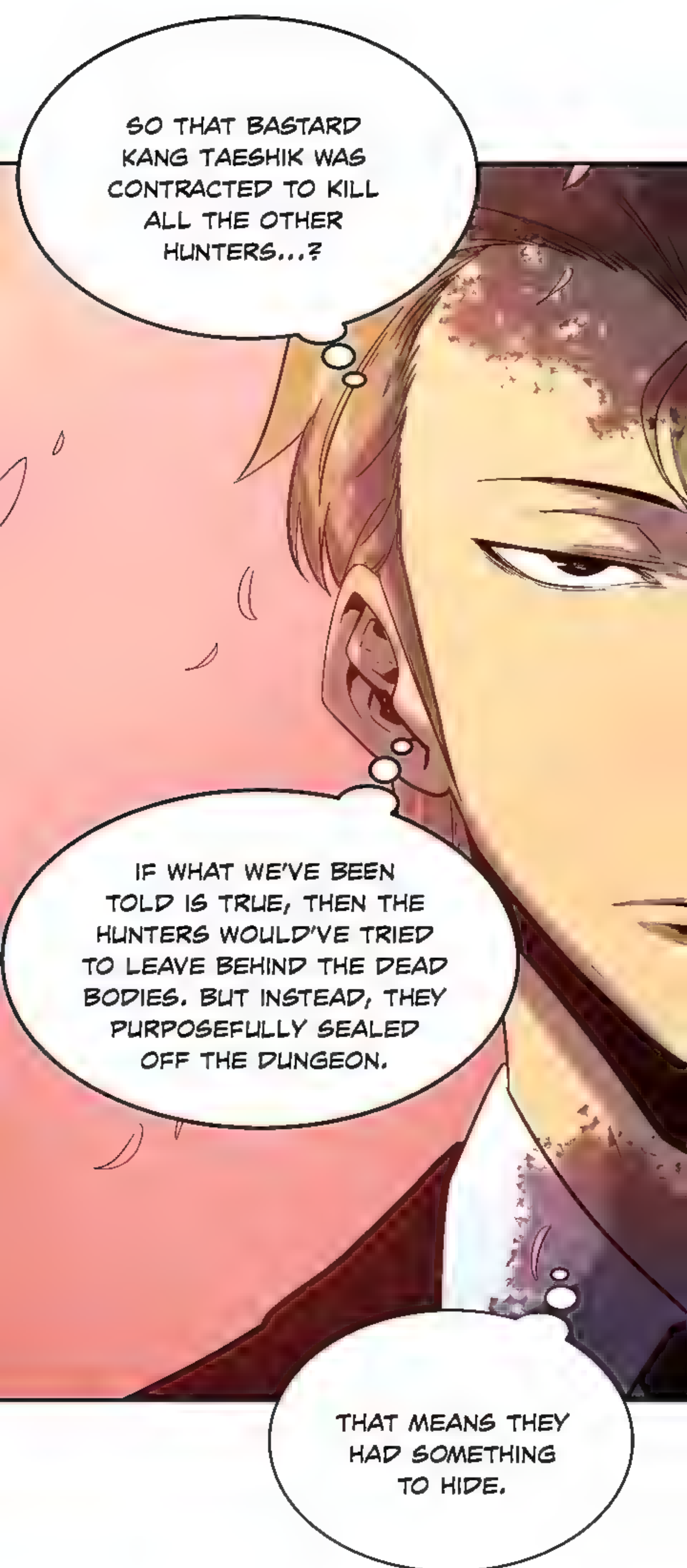


HOW LONG HAS
IT BEEN SINCE THE
DUNGEON WAS
CLEARED?

ABOUT
40 MINUTES, SIR.

THAT
MEANS THERE'S
ONLY 20 MINUTES
LEFT. SEEMS WE
GOT HERE TOO
LATE.

WE'LL ATTEMPT TO
RETRIEVE THE BODIES
WITHIN EIGHT MINUTES.
IF WE FAIL, WE'LL HAVE
TO GIVE UP AND LEAVE
THE DUNGEON.





HUNTER
SLUNG JINWOO?



IS HE THE SAME
PERSON I MET
BEFORE?

HE'S CHANGED
SO MUCH.



MR. SLUNG, WE
MEET AGAIN.

AH, YOU'RE THAT
SURVEILLANCE
AGENT...



YES, MY NAME IS WOO JINCHUL. I'M THE MANAGER OF THE SURVEILLANCE TEAM.

IT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF OUR AGENTS CAUSED A MAJOR PROBLEM.

WE'LL ISSUE AN OFFICIAL APOLOGY ONCE WE'VE GATHERED ALL THE FACTS. A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE INVESTIGATION TEAM, NOT THE SURVEILLANCE TEAM.



THIS IS NO TIME TO FEEL PROUD OF MYSELF FOR DEFEATING KANG TAESHUK, A B-RANK HUNTER.

I DIDN'T REALIZE THIS BEFORE, BUT...



...THIS GUY IS STRONG.

AS A SURVEILLANCE AGENT, I CAME DOWN HERE TO ASK YOU ALL

A FEW QUESTIONS
ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED.

HE'S IN
A LEAGUE OF
HIS OWN!

THIS GUY IS
A-RANK!

AT MY CURRENT
LEVEL, I WOULDN'T
STAND A CHANCE
AGAINST HIM.

WOULD THAT BE OKAY?
WITH YOUR COOPERATION,
WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET TO
THE BOTTOM OF THIS
MATTER QUICKLY.

YES, WE'LL
COOPERATE.

***THEN LET ME BE
STRAIGHTFORWARD.***



WHO KILLED
THE B-RANK HUNTER,
KANG TAESHIK?



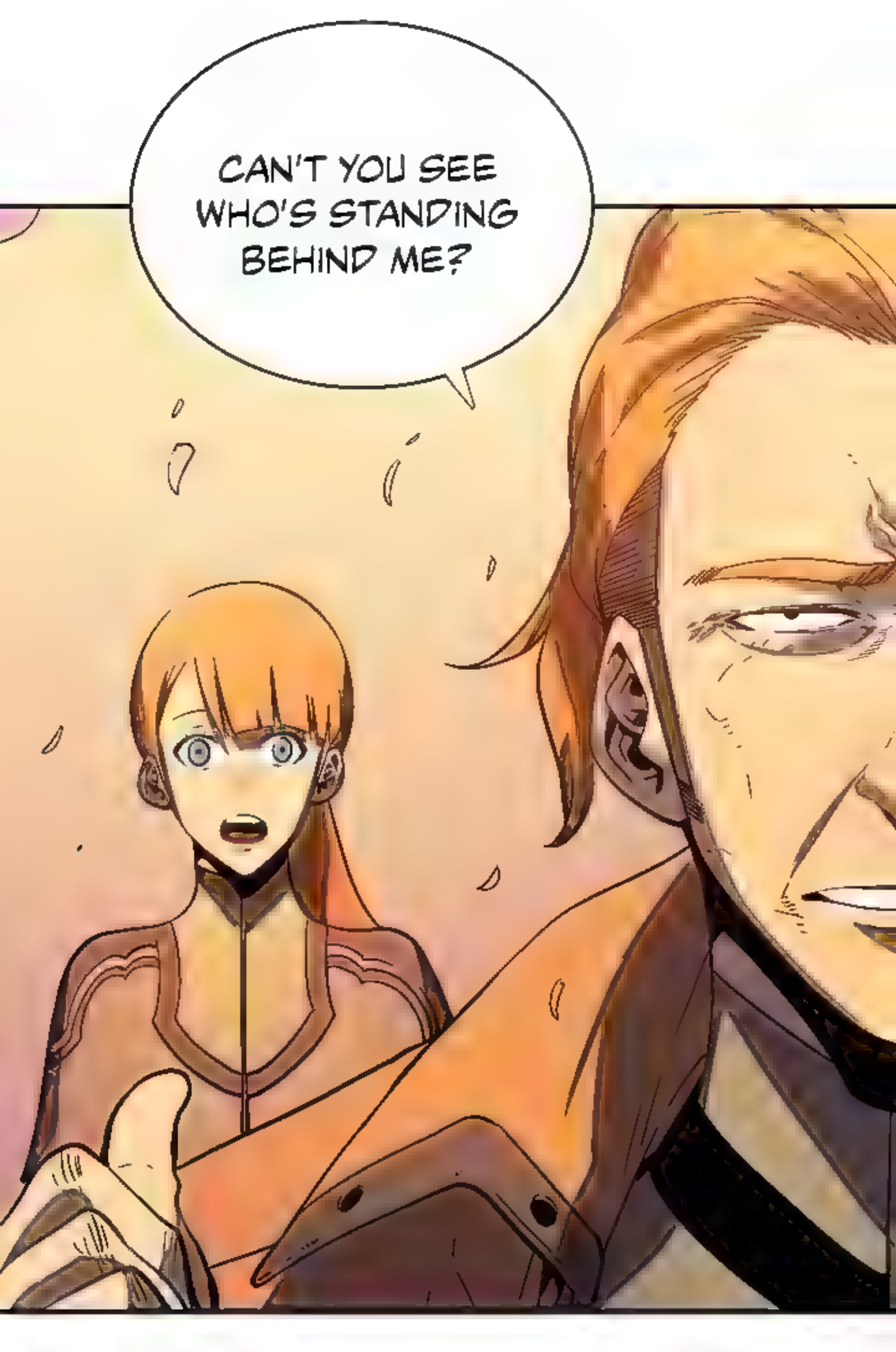
I CAN'T HIDE
THE FACT THAT I'VE
REAWAKENED ANY
LONGER.

IT'S A SHAME,
BUT LOOKS LIKE I'LL
HAVE TO FORGET ABOUT
THE DEAL I MADE
WITH JINHO...

...SINCE HE WANTS A
SKILLED HUNTER WITH
A LOW RANK.



IT WAS ME.



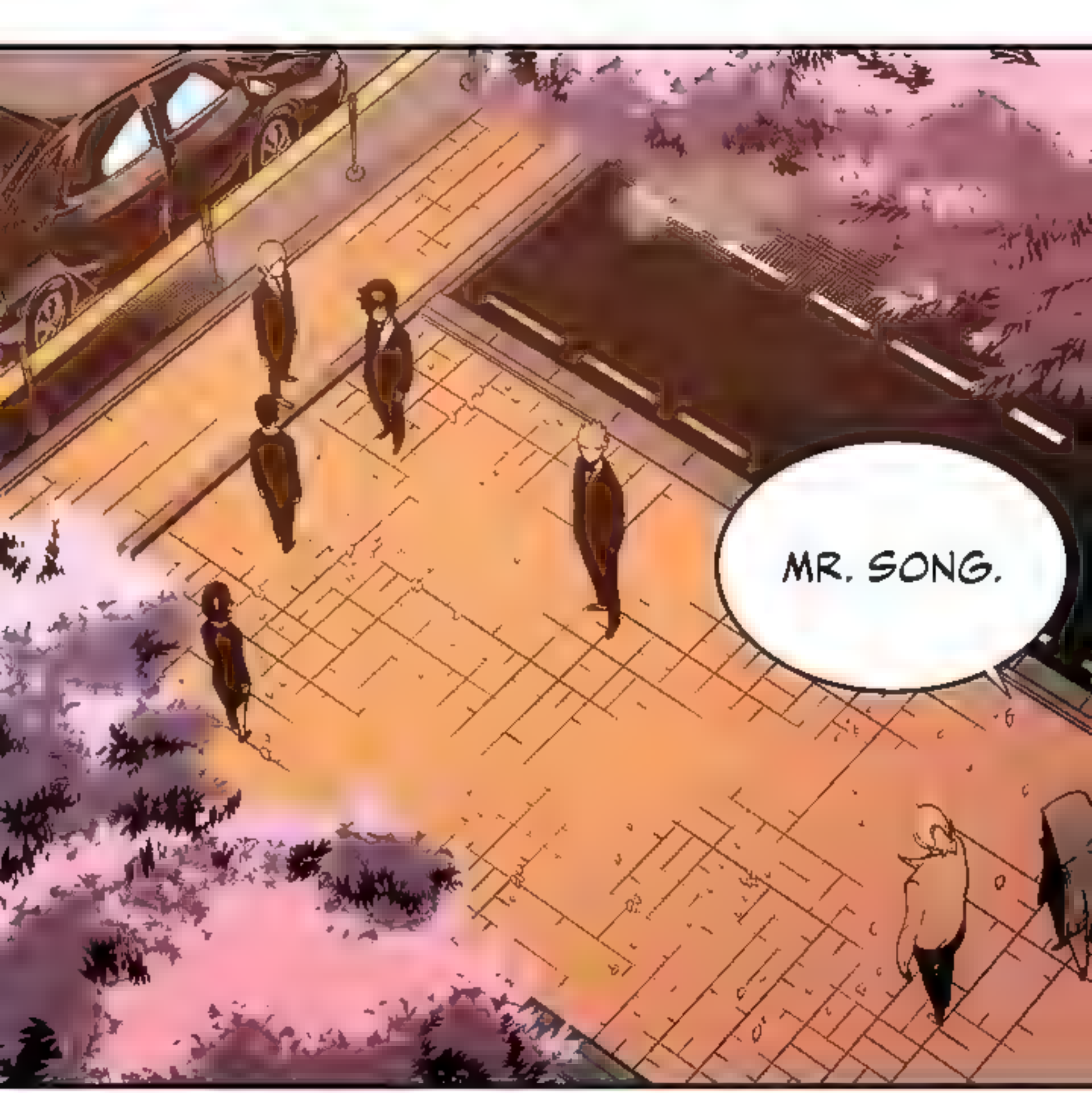


I SUPPOSE YOU
COULD'VE BEATEN A
B-RANK HUNTER IF YOU
HAD SUPPORT.

HOWEVER, KANG
TAESHIK... WAS AN
ENIGMA TO ALL OF US
ON THE SURVEILLANCE
TEAM AS WELL.

COMPARED
TO OTHER B-RANK
HUNTERS, HIS SKILLS WERE
EXCEPTIONAL. IS A C-RANK
HUNTER WITH A MISSING ARM
REALLY CAPABLE OF BEATING
A GUY LIKE THAT?

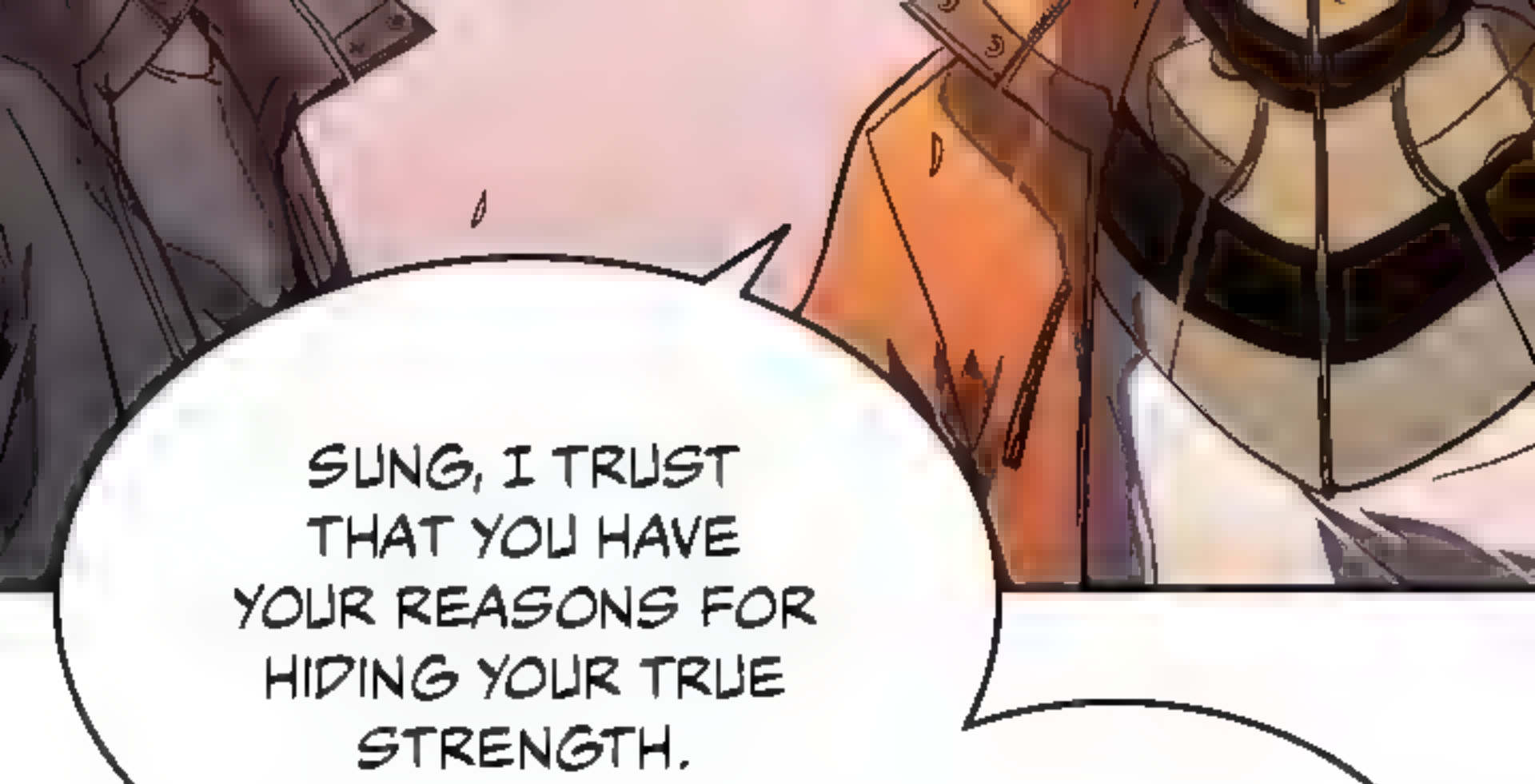
ANYWAY,
PLEASE COME WITH
US. YOU'LL BE HELPING
US WRITE UP A REPORT
ON THIS CASE.



MR. SONG.



WHY
DID YOU LIE?

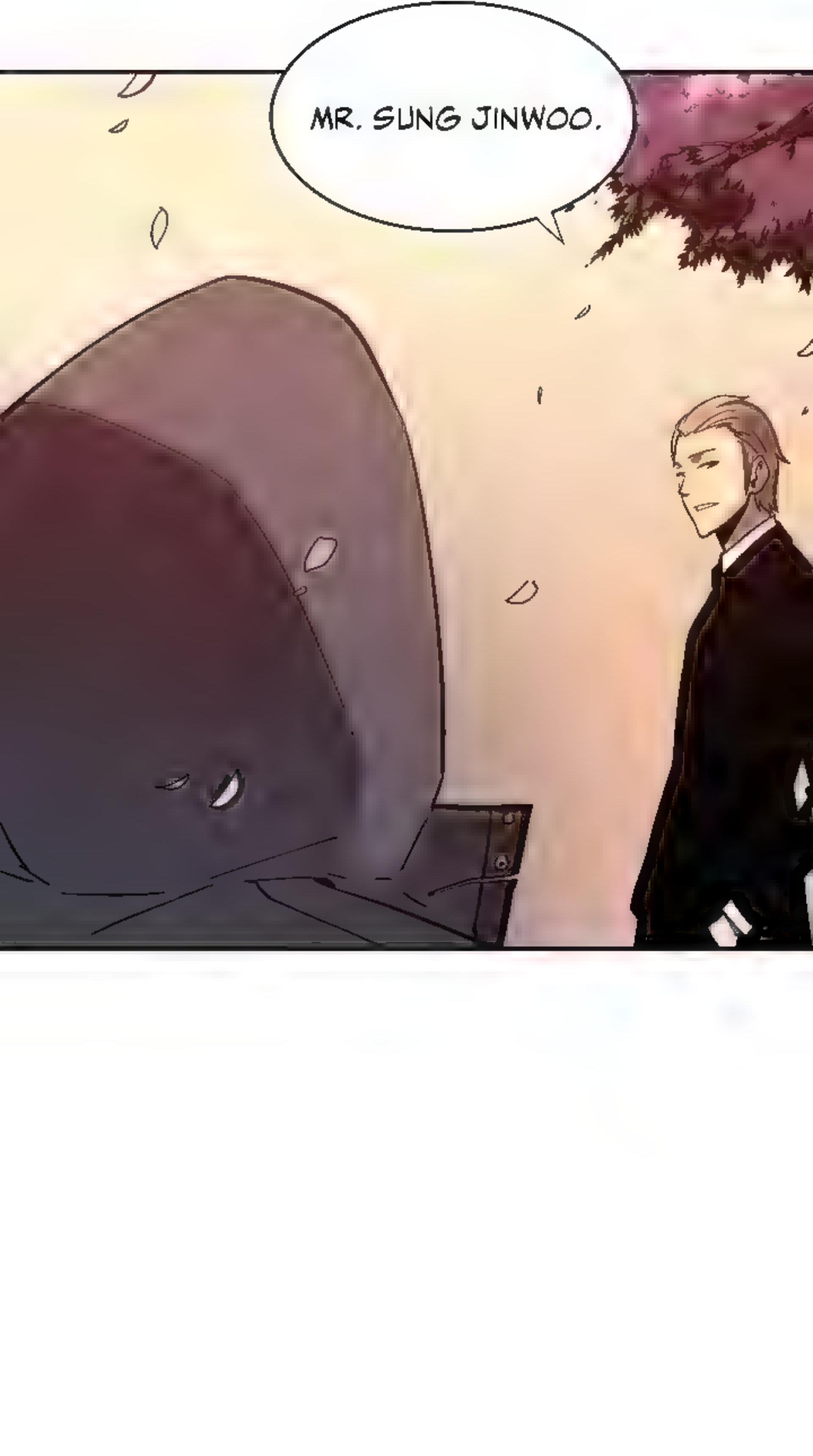


SUNG, I TRUST
THAT YOU HAVE
YOUR REASONS FOR
HIDING YOUR TRUE
STRENGTH.

SHOULD I NOT
HAVE LIED?

EITHER WAY, THE
INVESTIGATION CAN'T
BE AVOIDED.

THIS PROBABLY ISN'T
ENOUGH TO REPAY YOU
FOR SAVING MY LIFE,
BUT IT'S THE LEAST
I CAN DO.



MR. SUNG JINWOO.

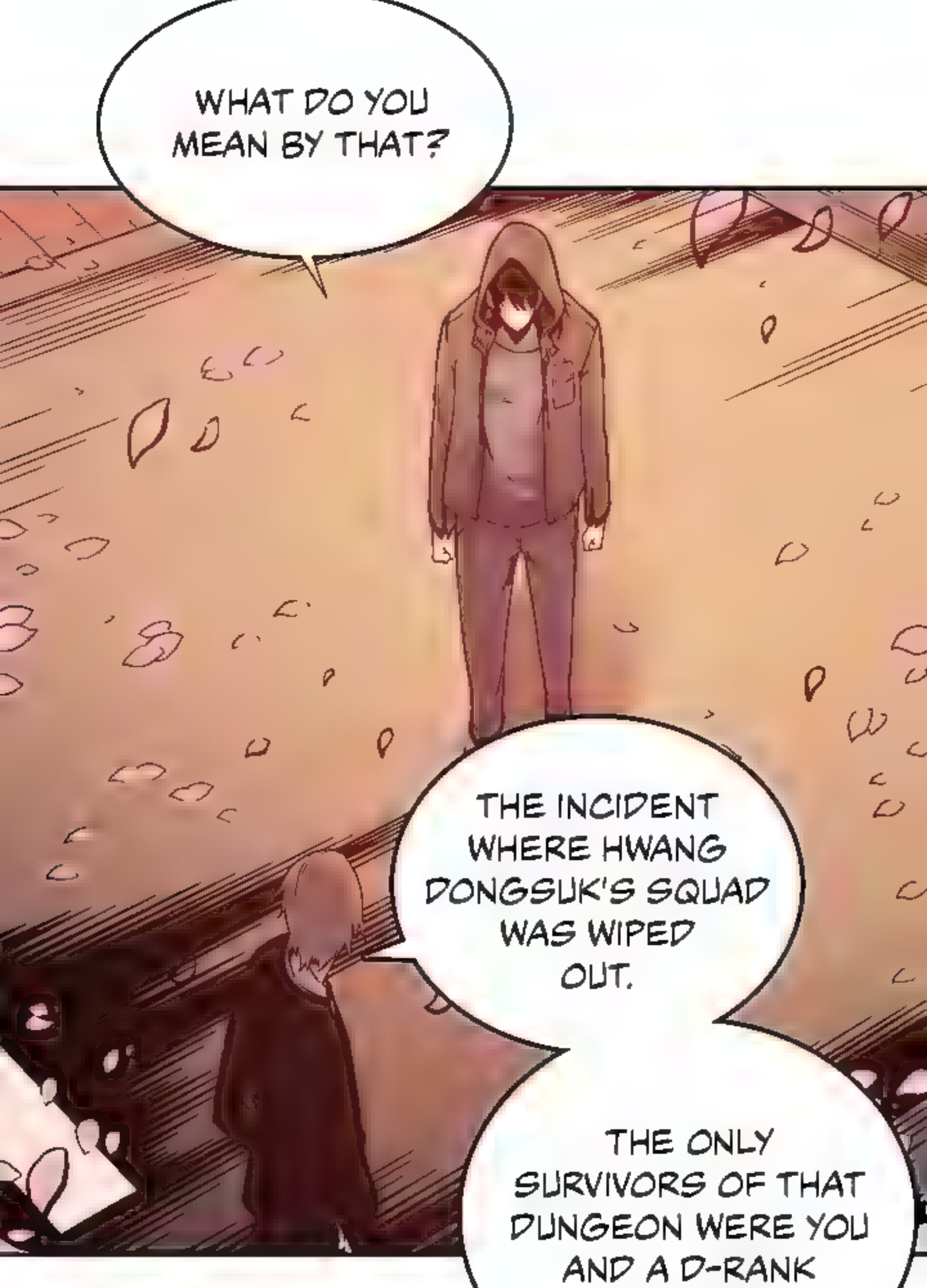


I HIGHLY
DOUBT AN E-RANKER
LIKE YOU WAS ABLE
TO DEFEAT A B-RANK
HUNTER LIKE KANG
TAESHIK...

...BECAUSE I DON'T
THINK IT'S HELPFUL TO
SUSPECT YOU AGAIN OF
REAWAKENING.

HOWEVER, I'M
JUST LETTING YOU
KNOW...

SINCE YOU WON'T
LAST LONG IF YOU'RE
NOT CAREFUL.



WHAT DO YOU
MEAN BY THAT?

THE INCIDENT
WHERE HWANG
DONGSUK'S SQUAD
WAS WIPED
OUT.

THE ONLY
SURVIVORS OF THAT
DUNGEON WERE YOU
AND A D-RANK
HUNTER.

BUT THE
PROBLEM IS, HWANG
DONGSUK'S YOUNGER
BROTHER IS THE HUNTER,
HWANG DONGSOO. CHANCES
ARE, YOU TWO NOW HAVE
A TARGET ON YOUR
BACKS.



ARE YOU TALKING
ABOUT S-RANK
HUNTER, HWANG
DONGSOO?



YES.

I HAVE
NO INTEREST IN
WHAT ACTUALLY
HAPPENED.

WHAT'S
IMPORTANT IS THAT
YOU, MR. SUNG, WERE
ABLE TO MAKE IT OUT
OF THERE ALIVE.

WE CANNOT
ENFORCE THE
LAW ON S-RANK
HUNTERS.



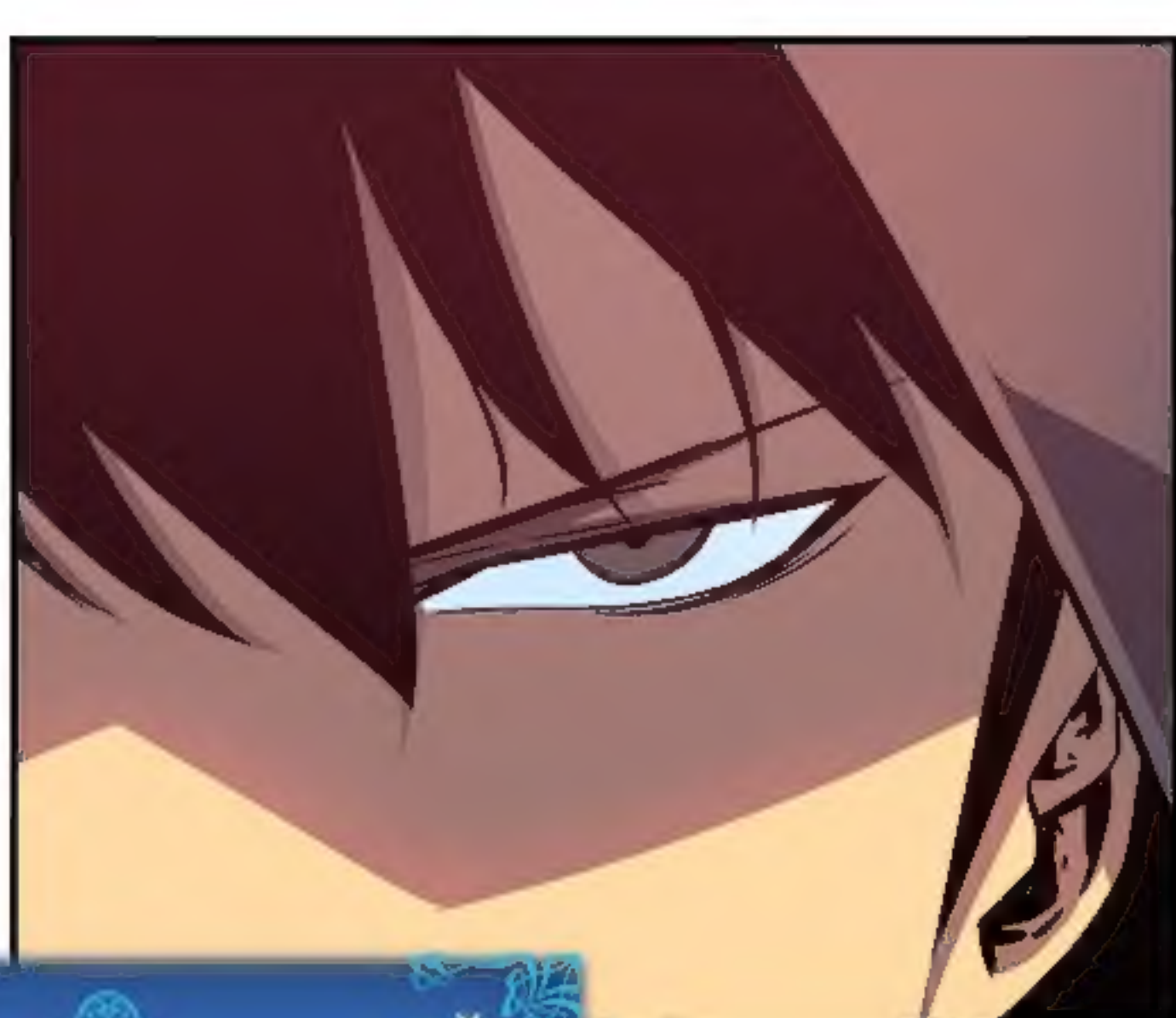
THEY ARE BOTH
MIRACULOUS AND
CATASTROPHIC
BEINGS.

I SUGGEST
YOU LAY LOW...

...BECAUSE
A MONSTER
FEARED BY OTHER
MONSTERS MIGHT
BE ON THE HUNT
FOR YOU.



IF POSSIBLE,
IT MIGHT EVEN BE
A GOOD IDEA TO LEAVE
THIS COUNTRY ALONG
WITH YOUR LOVED
ONES.



STATS

NAME: SUNG JINWOOD LEVEL: 27
JOB: NONE FATIGUE: 0
TITLE: WOLF ASSASSIN

HP: 5114

MP: 548

STRENGTH: 72 HEALTH: 43
AGILITY: 82 INTELLIGENCE: 39
SENSE: 69

PHYSICAL DAMAGE REDUCTION: 20% ACTIVATED

AVAILABLE ABILITY POINTS: 5

SKILLS

[PASSIVE]

(UNKNOWN) MAX

TENACITY LV. 1

[ACTIVE]

SPEED LV. 1

BLOODLUST LV. 1



[ITEM: WARDEN'S NECKLACE]

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: A

TYPE: NECKLACE

EQUIPPED

AGILITY +20, SENSE +20

THREE HOURS LATER,
DURING THE INVESTIGATION
INTO KANG TAESHIK'S
MURDER-FOR-HIRE CASE...



...THE CEO OF GEUMGANG
INDUSTRIES TURNED
HIMSELF IN AND OUR
ACTIONS WERE DEEMED
AS SELF-DEFENSE.

JINWOO.

GROAN



DO YOU
REMEMBER
THIS?



To Be Continued...

Solo Leveling

D&C
WEBTOON

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